

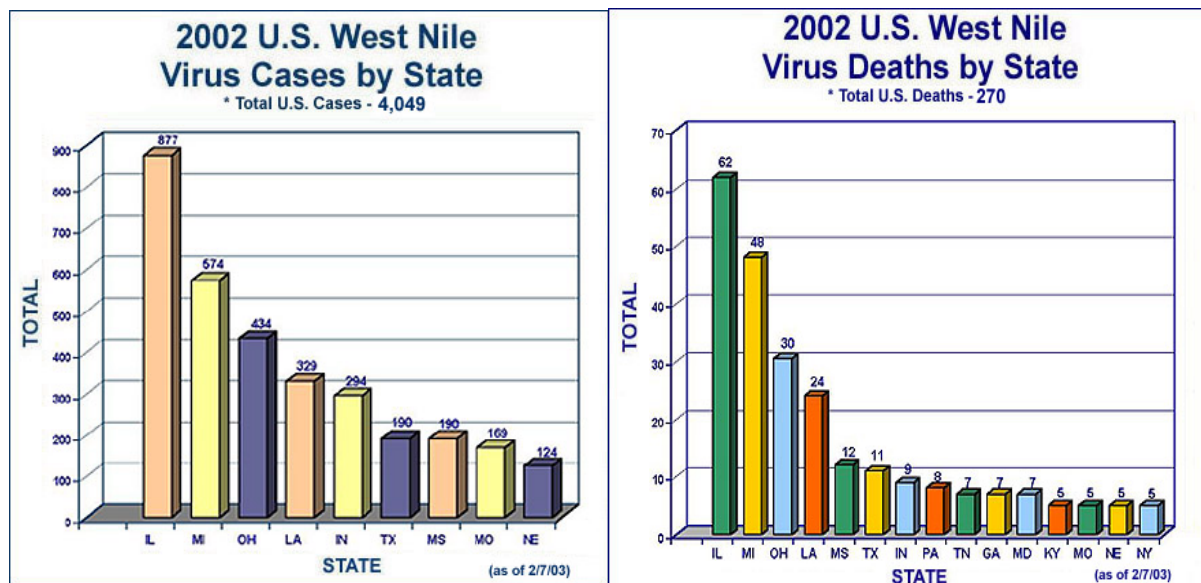
## West Nile Virus...

### Concerns and Precautions Revisited

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The West Nile Virus season will be arriving soon. More than 4,000 cases of West Nile disease and 260 deaths were recorded in the United States during 2002, with Illinois reporting the highest numbers.



The number of Illinois residents known to have contracted West Nile disease last year climbed to 877, with 62 cases resulting in death. In Kane County alone, there were 9 total cases and one death.

The risk of contracting West Nile disease is low. Fewer than 1% of people bitten by an infected mosquito will become severely ill, and most fatalities occur to people over 50 years of age and those who have compromised immune systems. Nonetheless, we should all do our part to help minimize the risk of exposure both here at work and at home.

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To reduce your risk of contracting the virus, stay indoors at dawn, dusk and in the early evening when mosquitoes are most active. Whenever outdoors, wear shoes and socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Use mosquito repellent containing 35% DEET, applied sparingly to exposed skin or clothing, as indicated on the repellent label. Consult a physician before using repellents on young children. Check your screens, including porches and patios, for tears and other openings. Eliminate stagnant water in birdbaths, ponds, flowerpots, wading pools, old tires and any other containers in which mosquitoes might breed.

Fermilab has conducted mosquito abatement for more than 25 years. During mosquito season, Roads and Grounds disperse an Ultra Low Volume (ULV) spray from a pick up truck-mounted applicator a couple times a week. This program targets adult mosquitoes. Spray areas typically include Site 29 and Site 58, as well as locations for certain laboratory events.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Stay indoors.</i></li><li>• <i>Cover up skin.</i></li><li>• <i>Apply DEET.</i></li><li>• <i>Check &amp; repair screens.</i></li><li>• <i>Eliminate standing water.</i></li></ul> |
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Roads and Grounds will also have a larvicide on hand this summer should West Nile virus become a local problem. To help out, building managers and other employees should be vigilant to eliminate mosquito breeding sites such as man-made containers and other items that hold water for long periods of time. Employees with questions about eliminating breeding spots should call Roads and Grounds.

Additional information may be found at the Illinois Department of Public Health West Nile Virus webpage:

<http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/wnv.htm>

And the Center for Disease Control (CDC) West Nile Virus webpage:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>

This message should be distributed to all employees via delivery of un-addressed copies to Fermilab mail stations. Suggestions for ES&H message topics should be directed to Mary Logue at [grace@fnal.gov](mailto:grace@fnal.gov) or X6329.